

AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1. This sheet, which includes Figs. 1 and 2, replaces the original sheet including Figs. 1 and 2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet, 1 page

REMARKS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office action, and amended as necessary to more clearly and particularly describe the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1-10 remain in the application. Claims 6-10 are new but do not include new matter. Claim 10 is directed to a method of generating mist and exhausting the mist through a completely open end of a casing. Consideration of new claims 6-10 is respectfully requested.

Drawing Objections

The Examiner has objected to the Figs. 1 and 2 as being inconsistent with each other and the drawing descriptions in the Specification. Fig. 1 has been amended such that the nozzle orientation is the same as shown in Fig. 2. The description of Fig. 2 has been amended in the specification to be consistent with Fig. 2. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Specifically the Examiner states that the term "jet axis" is not supported within the Specification. Applicant has amended claim 1 to replace the term "jet axis" with "axis of rotation" which is described in the Specification. Reconsideration

and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 under §112 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. 4,903,364 to Long (hereinafter Long). For the following reasons, the Examiner's rejection is traversed.

Long is directed to a cleaning apparatus that includes a ringlike band attached to a skirtlike brushing means. Wands shoot water or a water plus cleaning solution against an object upon which the apparatus sits in order to clean the object. Due to the configuration of the wheels on the apparatus, the apparatus can hang over the edge of an object and remain stable.

Regarding amended claim 1, Long does not disclose a casing tube that is *fully open* at a terminal (mist discharge) end when the nozzle system is in use, as required. Rather, in Long, a portion of the discharge end is always at least partially blocked by the object being cleaned. In some instances (when the device hangs over an edge), a portion of the discharge end is open, but never completely open.

For at least this reason, Long does not anticipate the invention of claim 1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-3 depend directly from claim 1 and are believed to be allowable at least for the reasons stated above. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-3 is respectfully requested.

Regarding claim 4, Long does not disclose a nozzle system having a "casing tube at least twice its diameter", as required. Rather, Long discloses a ringlike member that has a length approximately one eighth of the diameter of the apparatus and a skirt that has at most a length that is approximately one quarter of the diameter of apparatus. Separate, or combined, these elements of Long do not

approach a length of about twice the diameter of the apparatus. The length to diameter ratio in the present invention is important such that a fine mist is formed by the time the terminal end of the casing is reached.

For at least the reasons stated above, claim 4 is not anticipated by the Long reference. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 4 is respectfully requested.

Claim 5 depends directly from claim 1 and is believed to be allowable at least for the reasons stated above. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 5 is respectfully requested.

Claim 2 has also been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Long. Specifically, the Examiner states that Long suggests the generation of a water jet that is slightly tilted relative to a circumferential direction of a counterclockwise rotation. However, claim 2 depends directly from claim 1 and Long does not teach or suggest all of the features of claim 1, as amended. Specifically, Long does not teach or suggest a casing tube that is fully open at a terminal (mist discharge) end when the nozzle system is in use, as stated above.

For at least this reason, Long does not teach or suggest all of the features of claim 2. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 2 is respectfully requested.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 18-0160, our Order No. SCH-16475.

Respectfully submitted,

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